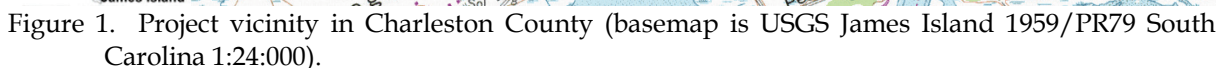




P.O. Box 8664
861 ARBUTUS DRIVE
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29202
803-787-6910
WWW.CHICORA.ORG

Agency and Permit Number: None given

Field Personnel: Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA



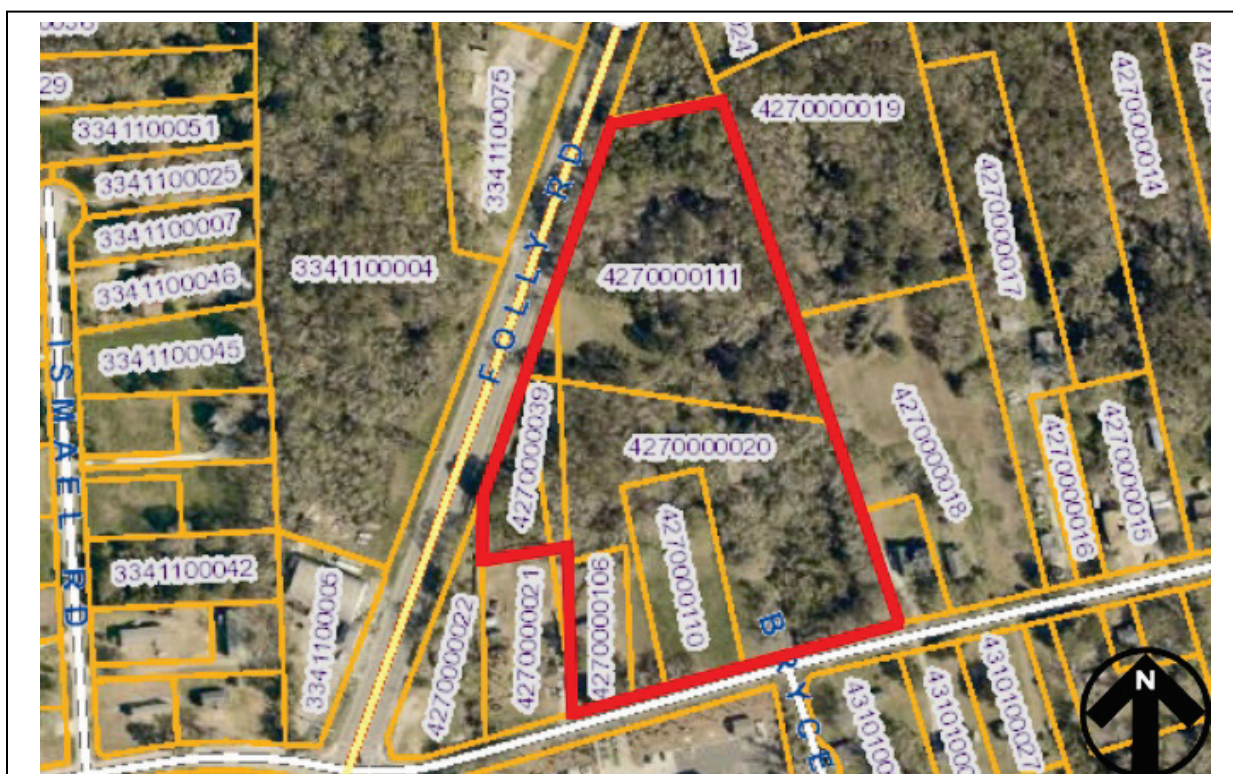


Figure 2. Project area (in red), showing tracts.

Date of Survey: March 6, 2009

Objective: To obtain initial historic research that will assist in better understanding the types of archaeological sites present on the tract; to evaluate land use activities and their potential affects on possible archaeological sites; and to identify the areas of the tract that have the highest probability of producing archaeological and/or historical sites (if any).

Survey Description: The tract consists of approximately 10 acres that was annexed into the City of Charleston in 2018 and is proposed for multifamily housing by the client. The property is bordered by Folly Road to the northwest and Grimball Road Extension to the south. The surrounding sides border other small, largely wooded, parcels (see Figure 2). Several dirt roads penetrate the study parcel, going to various structures. Today, the property has been allowed to become heavily wooded in some areas, as agriculture has lapsed.

The soils on the parcel consist of primarily of Seabrook and Kiawah loamy fine sands. The Kiawah soils are generally deep, somewhat poorly drained soils, with a seasonal high water table within 1 to 2 feet of the surface. Usually plowed, these soils have an Ap horizon of very dark grayish brown soil to about 0.8 foot, overlying more gray-brown soil (the A2 and A3 horizons) to about 1.5 feet, below which is the B21t horizon or subsoil. The Seabrook soils are moderately well drained, with a seasonal high water table within 2 to 3 feet of the surface. These soils are characterized by an Ap horizon of very dark grayish-brown soil, overlying the C3 or subsoil horizon of dark brown to dark yellowish-brown sand (Miller 1971)

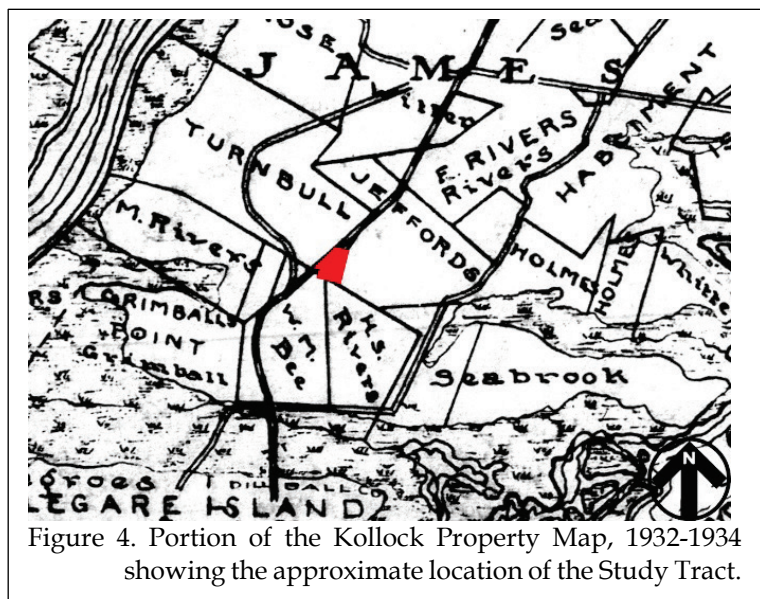


These soils are characteristic of many of the cultivated fields on James Island, with many fields historically evidencing ditching or drainage or mounding of the soils to allow plants (such as cotton) to have somewhat drier soils (Allston 1854; Seabrook 1847:9).

Brief Historical Comments: Although a title search was not conducted, during the mid-twentieth century the property was owned by the Moultrie family. Henry Moultrie (born about 1898) was listed as living on James Island in the 1930 census. He was reported to own his farm, on which he and his wife (Rosa Lester or Deleston, depending on the source) were operating. He had at that time 8 children, including his oldest, March. The census reported that Henry was able to read and write, in spite of never having attended school. When a young child died, he was buried at “Burn Church Cemetery,” adjacent to, and separated by a hedge, the James Island Presbyterian Church Cemetery on Folly Road, about a mile north of the study tract.

Frazier (2010:119-120) focuses on Rosa, giving her maiden name as Deleston. The parents of both Rosa and Henry are reported to have been slaves, although both were born in freedom (Rosa in 1895 and Henry in 1898). Frazier notes that they were sharecroppers on the Grimball Plantation (about a mile to the west) and Seabrook Plantation (located about 1.2 miles west of the study tract, on the Secessionville peninsula. Frazier also reports that they are buried in the Evergreen Cemetery (also Ever Green Slave Cemetery), about 2,500 feet west of the Study Tract and clearly identified on the USGS topographic map.

Although Frazier associates the Moultrie family with Seabrook Plantation, Figure 4 places the study tract – and their property – on what was Jeffords property during the 1930s. A detailed



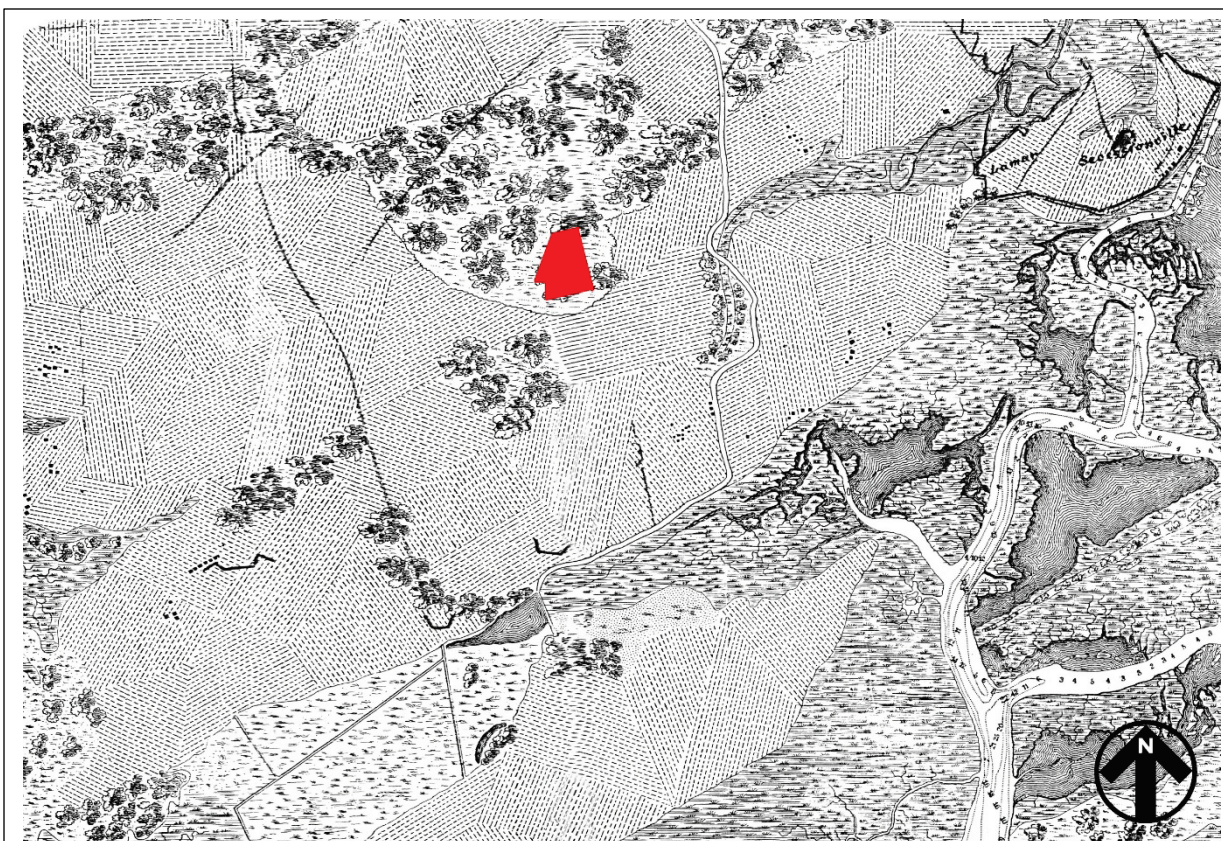


Figure 5. Portion of the *Charleston Harbour and the Adjacent Coast and Country; South Carolina* map, prepared by Hartman Bache, 1823-1825.

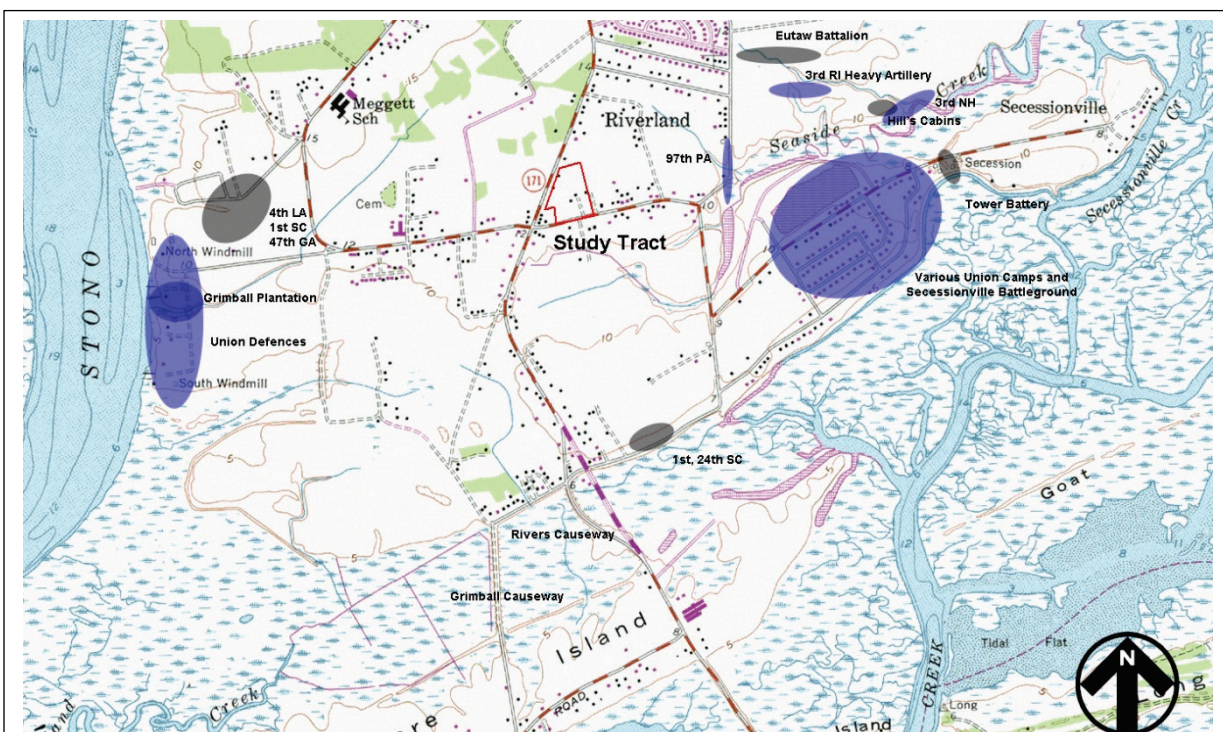


Figure 6. A few Civil War activities in relationship to the Study Tract.

title search would be necessary to resolve this issue, including the mechanism of the family acquiring their own farm.

Prior to their ownership, in the early 1820s, an exceptionally detailed map of the area was prepared by Bache and is shown in Figure 5 (this map served as the basis for the 1866 Coast Chart 53 on a larger scale). This plan reveals that the Moultrie's' property was situated outside of prime agricultural lands at the time, which is plausible as such lands would be more affordable for recently freed slaves.

This plan also shows Civil War additions, including activities at Secessionville, as well as several Confederate batteries to the south of the Study Tract.

The South of course, heavily fortified James Island in a successful effort to prevent a land attack of Charleston. One of the most informative accounts is that of Brennan (1996).

The location of a few of the locations associated with the island are shown on Figure 6. Although none of the major events took place in, or even adjacent to, the Study Tract, there is little question that it was visited by either Union or Confederate forces during the Civil War. Lesser earthworks, such as rifle pits may have been present.

This concern with the general area has documented by the *Civil War Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*.

They defined a study area of 3,624.28 acres, identifying 2,298.98 acres as "potential National Register lands" (at present, only 7.40 acres are protected by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the South Carolina Battlefield Preservation Trust). This report comments,

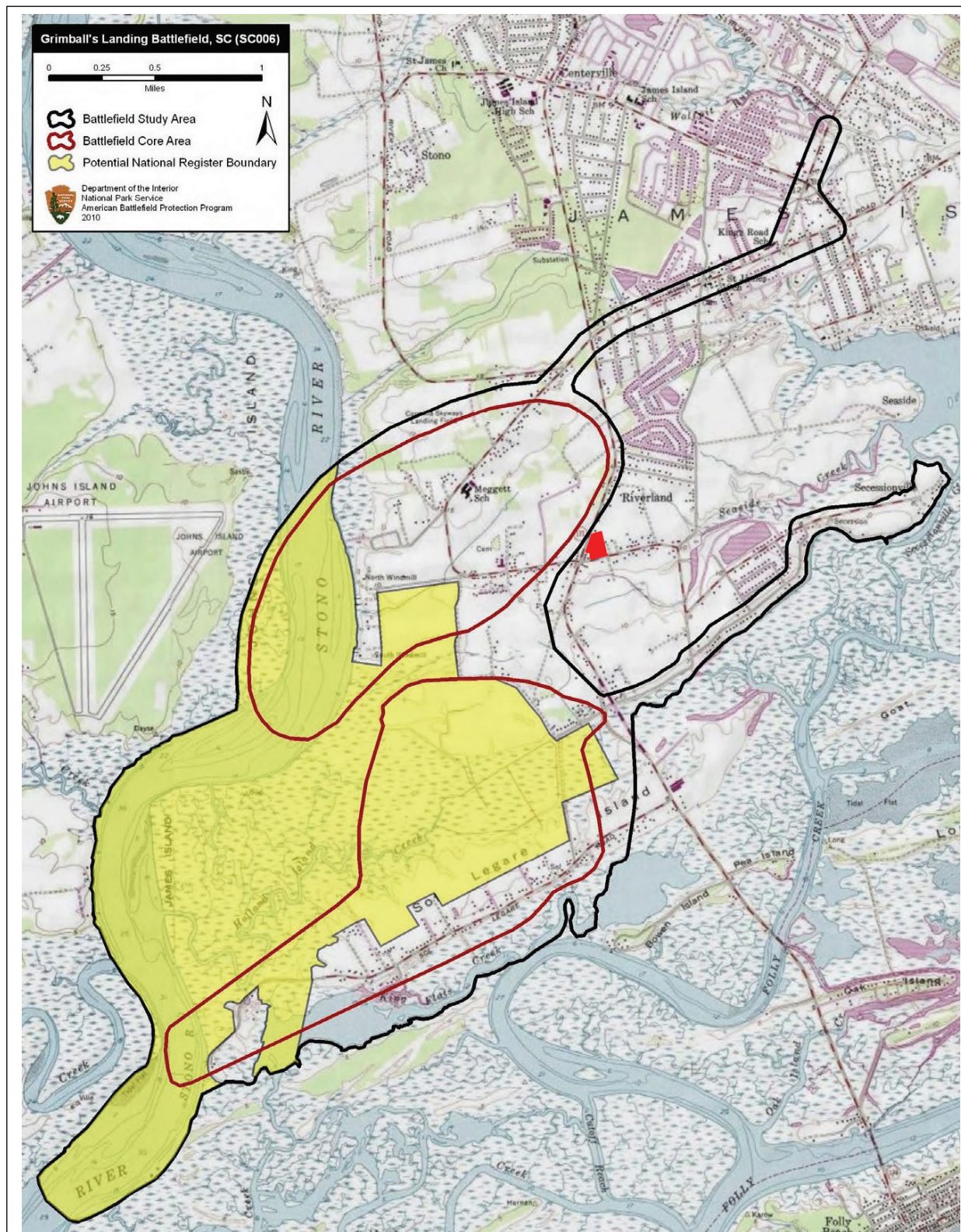
Portions of the landscape have been altered, but most essential features remain. Given the marshy, inaccessible character of the surrounding landscape, routes used by US forces during their advance inland from Grimball's Landing and routes further south at Sol Legare Island remain intact. The waterways – DeSoto [sic, possibly Stono] River and Folly Island Creek – which were crucial to the operation, still flow along courses very similar to the 1853 paths.

Significant residential development from the east and north represents an advancing threat to Grimball's Landing. This development has already destroyed most of the Confederate approach routes to the battlefield, along with the Confederate batteries located near the marshes of James Island. On Sol Legare Island, much of the battlefield near the eastern causeway has been destroyed. Development sprawling south from Charleston represents the greatest threat to the remaining Confederate batteries.

Grimball's Landing has not associated listings in the National Register of Historic Places. Preservation advocates should focus on efforts to list what remains of Grimball's Landing as a battlefield landscape (*Update to the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields, Final Draft, State of South Carolina, p. 51*).

Figure 7 shows the accompanying plan and reveals that the Study Tract is immediately outside the study area and the northern core area. It is also about 4,000 feet beyond the closest proposed National Register boundary.

There are earlier maps of James Island, but they are rarely of a scale or accuracy that allows direct overlays. For example, the 1780 Eden map, *A Plan of the Town, Bar, Harbour and Environs of Charleston*,



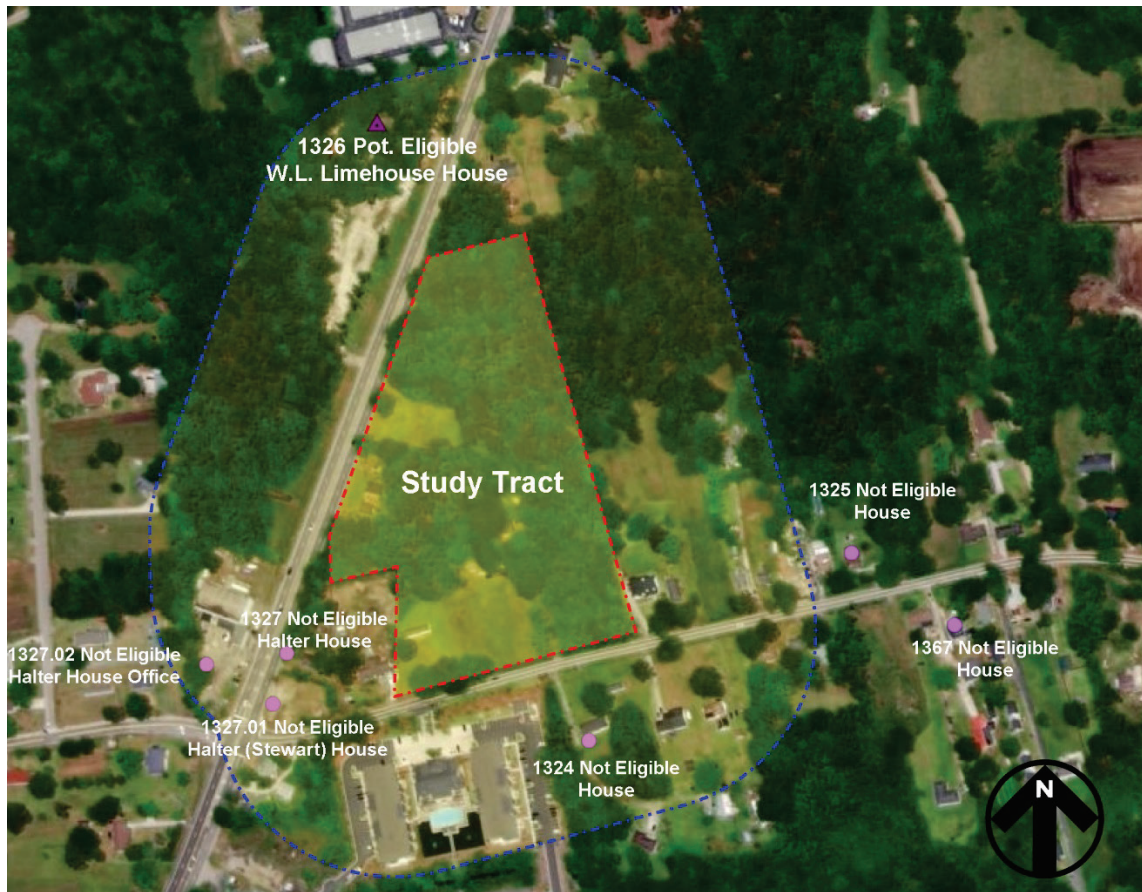


Figure 8. ARCH SITE map of the study area, showing the APE and identified sites (all are historic structures).

seems to show the Study Area wooded, just as it was 40 years later. With no specific location, sources such as Tustin (1979) and Uhlenhof (1938) are of little assistance.

Previously Identified Historic and Archaeological Sites: Consultation with ARCH SITE provides information on previously identified sites in the area (Figure 8). We chose an area of potential effects (APE) of 500 feet surrounding the study tract. This was based on the development that has already occurred to the immediate south of the parcel.

The presence of archaeological sites depends on there having been an archaeological investigation in the area. Although Chicora has conducted work in the Secessionville fields, identifying the earthworks and even a Confederate dugout (Trinkley and Hacker 1997), there are no archaeological sites within the APE. I must note that there is a variety of both prehistoric and historic sites previously recorded on James Island, just none in the immediate area of this project.

The presence of recorded architectural sites is largely dictated by whether the area has received an architectural survey. Fortunately, James Island has received such a survey, although it is now 30 years old. Nevertheless, that study identified four architectural sites within the APE that were determined by the State Historic Preservation Office to be not eligible and one site determined to be potentially eligible and requiring additional investigation. Outside the APE, but within close proximity, there are two additional sites, both determined not eligible.

The one potentially eligible site (1326 on ARCH SITE, but 2490050 in the Fick et al. report) is situated about 400 feet to the northwest.

Previous Land Use History: The cited cartographic sources indicate that for much of the antebellum, the Study Tract was likely wooded. The earliest aerial image we have identified is 1957, when the area was very intensively cultivated. Even if the cultivation was shallow (perhaps by mule), this is still important since we have identified an 1870 advertisement that at least one community (Moultriville) required lot owners, “which have been excavated or upon which earthworks have been raised, are required to fill up such excavations and to level said works” (*The Charleston Courier*, March 1, 1870). Certainly, the earthworks at Secessionville had been entirely filled in and were in cultivation by the time of our investigation. It seems unlikely that any Civil War features (such as shallow rifle pits) would survive the cultivation we see in the aerial image (Figure 9).

Although there is a 1919 USGS topographic map, it fails to show vegetative features.

Public Outreach: We did not contact any state, tribal, or federal agencies (other than for ARCH SITE) and no public groups as part of this overview. We did, however, note that the Facebook site, “Save James Island” apparently opposed the annexation of the property into the City of Charleston.

We also note that apparently most of Grimball Farms is intended for development (<http://innovations-design.com/community-design/grimball-farms/>) and this may place additional preservation pressure on smaller tracts (see, for example, Graves 2010).

Field Investigation: A pedestrian investigation conducted by the author on Wednesday, March 6, 2019. Present on the tract are three houses off Grimball Road Extension and two structures off Folly Road. All are visible on the modern property map and aerial.

The structures off Grimball Road Extension are mobile and concrete block structures. All are modern and none exhibit architectural merit (Figure 10). The structures off Folly Road are also modern and include what may be a house converted into a mechanic’s shop and adjacent, what appears to be a bar (Figure 11). These are not considered to be of architectural significance.

The woods off Grimball Road Extension, at the time of the survey, were wet and consist of low ground second growth (Figure 11). While I have no doubt that clearing and perhaps ditching would allow the agriculture seen in aerials, the area is not a prime location for prehistoric or historic occupation. This would not, of course, affect Civil War activities.

Figure 12 shows the extant field remaining off Folly Road. While somewhat drier, the photograph still shows the soil’s ability to hold moisture. This area is also not considered a prime location for archaeological remains.

This investigation reveals why, during much of the antebellum, this property was left in vegetation. It is also consistent with less than prime agricultural land being sold to freedmen.

General Findings and Recommendations: If there is no federal or state funding, licensing, or permitting, it is unlikely that Section 106 requirements for the consideration of cultural resources will be necessary. However, these observations may nevertheless be of use.

First, the potential for prehistoric archaeological remains appears low. Although at least the Seabrook soils are considered moderately well drained, our brief pedestrian visit found that during winter periods of rainfall (such as we have had recently), these soils drain slowly. Moreover, the absence of any nearby



Figure 9. Aerial images of the site vicinity. At the top is an image from March 1957, showing virtually the entire tract under cultivation. At the bottom is the March 2018 image showing development to the south and west.



Figure 10. Two of the extant structures off Grimball Road Extension.



Figure 11. Study tract. At the top are the structures off Folly Road. At the bottom is the low vegetation off Grimball Road Extension.



Figure 12. Study tract. At the top is the field seen in aerial photographs off Folly Road. Below is current development along Folly Road.

free flowing drainage would discourage prehistoric settlement. Finally, the intensive cultivation that has occurred during perhaps the late nineteenth and much of the twentieth century is likely to have disturbed any intact remains.

Second, I have identified no indication, based on the survey of historic cartographic resources, that any historic settlements occurred in this area. Its drainage likely discouraged such activities.

Third, there are no structures on the study tract that are worthy of architectural recordation.

Fourth, based on the above, we do not recommend any additional archaeological investigations, although of course if Section 106 is involved, this decision would be made by the lead agency in consultation with the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SC SHPO).

Fifth, if there is Section 106 involvement, the SC SHPO may require further evaluation of the potentially eligible structures northwest of the project. Such additional investigation was not undertaken by this study.

Sixth, it remains possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the area during construction. Even if there is no 106 involvement, we encourage your contractor to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to Chicora Foundation for our assessment. If there eventually is Section 106 involvement, then the process of dealing with such "late discoveries" is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

Sources Cited:

Allston, R.F.W.

1854 *Essay on Sea Coast Crops*. A.E. Miller, Charleston, South Carolina.

Brennan, Patrick

1996 *Secessionville, Assault on Charleston*. Savas Publishing, Campbell, California.

Fick, Sarah, David Schneider, and Robert P. Stockton

1989 *Survey Report – James Island and Johns Island Historical and Architectural Inventory*.
Preservation Consultants, Charleston, South Carolina.

Frazier, Eugene, Jr.

2010 *A History of James Island Slave Descendants & Plantation Owners*. The History Press,
Charleston, South Carolina.

Graves, Brian A.

2010 *Communication, Development, and Cultural Preservation: The Case of Gullah History
and Culture on James Island, SC*. Ph.D. dissertation, Department of History, University
of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Miller, E.N.

1971 *Soil Survey of Charleston County, South Carolina*. U.S.D.A., Soil Conservation Service,
Washington, D.C.

Seabrook, William B.

1847 *Memoir on Sea Island Cotton*. Supplement to the Proceedings of the State Agricultural
Society of South Carolina, pp. 3-23. Summer and Carroll, Columbia.

Trinkley, Michael and Debi Hacker

1997 *Excavations at a Portion of the Secessionville Archaeological Sites (38CH1456), James Island, Charleston County, South Carolina*. Research Series 52. Chicora Foundation, Inc., Columbia.

Tustin, Joseph P.

1979 *Diary of the American War: A Hessian Journal, Captain Johann Ewald, Field Jäger Corps*. Yale University Press, New Haven.

Uhlendorf, Bernard A., editor

1938 *The Siege of Charleston*. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor.